

INFORMATION REPORT  
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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. About two-thirds of the Reichsbahn maintenance shops for rolling stock (RAW's) are working two shifts instead of the usual three. One reason given is that many freight cars which normally would be in for repairs are being used by the Russians for troop and equipment movement and are overdue for maintenance work. A second reason is the current shortage of wheel rim tires for cars awaiting repairs.
2. The LOWA Works in Wildau is producing mainly flower boxes for house balconies.
3. The Basa telephone net in the shops at Potsdam and Kirchmoeser has been closed for general use. Only the plant director and the political leader of these installations have Basa connections. All personnel requiring the use of the Basa net for conversation must call from the office of one of these persons.
4. It is reported that the rivalry between Deputy Minister Kramer and Deputy Minister Staimer is increasing. Kramer, who is said to be a Russian citizen as well as a German, is believed to be in good favor with the Russians and is preferred by many because of his competence in railway matters. Staimer has the advantage of being the son-in-law of East German President Pieck and of being considered more reliable politically by the SED. At the recent railway conference in Leipzig, Staimer was much in evidence and appeared to be generally in charge, whereas Kramer held back and was only infrequently observed. Kramer has been ill for some time and has been spending much time recuperating in Karlsbad, Czechoslovakia.

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